



Division for Children, Youth and Families Child In Need of Services (CHINS) Program



Division for Children, Youth and Families
NH Department of Health and Human Services



The redefined CHINS program

- ❖ The new CHINS definition states;
- ❖ that a child or youth must have behaviors that are consistent with the definition
- ❖ A mental health or developmental diagnosis or both
- ❖ That they are not eligible for services under abuse/neglect or delinquency.



The redefined CHINS program

- ❖ A CHINS petition must have DHHS consent.
- ❖ A family or community member involved should contact the local Juvenile Justice office and speak with the Supervisor.



The redefined CHINS program

- ❖ Since the new legislation there have been;
- ❖ 28 have been approved.
- ❖ 16 requests have been denied.
 - Most of the denials have been due to the youth needing to be brought through the delinquency process.



The redefined CHINS program: Monitoring

- ❖ DCYF developed a monthly monitoring report.
- ❖ This report looks at the impact of the changes to our system for both cases served.
- ❖ This report has 8 categories DCYF is tracking



The redefined CHINS program: Monitoring

- ❖ Closed CHINS since 6/1/11
- ❖ Transitioning CHINS: cases that are remaining open between dates of 7/1/11 and 10/1/11
- ❖ Old CHINS: cases that were open prior to 7/1/11 and remain open because Youth meets new definition
- ❖ Old CHINS: cases remain open because Judge did not approve closure
- ❖ New CHINS: opened after 7/1/11 but not reviewed for "consent"
- ❖ New CHINS: reviewed and consent provided
- ❖ Old CHINS from the 6/1/11 universe, case closed but youth is now opened for abuse/neglect or delinquency.



The redefined CHINS program: Monitoring

- ❖ DCYF has not experienced any case of prior CHINS coming back under abuse/neglect of delinquency.
- ❖ Currently have about 52 CHINS cases open and being served.
- ❖ We have seen a rise in reports and assessments of Educational Neglect in the past year by about 100. But not yet an increase in those resulting in open abuse/neglect cases.



The redefined CHINS program: Monitoring

❖ Questions?